Filed: February 24, 2004

Amendment dated January 15, 2010

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(Currently amended) A method of obtaining Social Security disability

insurance benefits (SSDI) from the Social Security Administration (SSA) for a

disabled individual, recovering and returning at least a portion of predetermined

amount of overpaid benefits made to the disabled individual by a third party by a

service provider, and allowing access by the third party to an interactive computer

program the method of the a service provider, the method comprising:

a). obtaining by the service provider from the disabled individual

preauthorization for direct recovery of the overpaid benefits from a deposit account  $\underline{\text{ of }}$ 

the disabled individual;

b). filing a claim with the SSA for SSDI by the service provider on behalf of the

disabled individual;

calculating an amount of overpaid benefits previously provided to the disabled

person by the third party to be recovered;

c). obtaining SSDI for the disabled individual as a result of the filing of the

claim with the SSA, said SSDI being directly deposited by the SSA into the deposit

account:

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d). verifying, by the service provider, that the disabled individual's deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits;

e), electronically recovering from the deposit account, by a computer of the service provider, a preauthorized, the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits previously provided to the disabled person by the third party after the deposit of SSDI by the SSA in the disabled individual's deposit account; and

f). said service previder providing the third party with access to a an interactive computer database-program of the service provider to enable by a third party for monitoring by the third party to monitor [[of]] the progress of one or more of the afere recited steps a) — e), said monitoring being performed concurrently with the afore recited steps performed by the service provider; and

g). returning at least a portion of the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits to the third party.

(Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein—the—step—of
calculating—the—predetermined—amount—of—overpaid—benefits—to—be—recovered—is
performed by the third party further comprising the service provider electronically
receiving information regarding the predetermined amount from the third party
instead-of-the-service-provider.

## 3. (Canceled)

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4. (Currently amended) A method by which a service provider can improve the rate of recovery and decrease collection time from a claimant of an overpaid disability insurance benefits paid to the claimant by a client of the service provider, after an award of <u>Social Security disability insurance benefits</u> (SSDI) and the claimant's receipt of SSDI payments[[,1]; the method comprising[[,1]]:

said-service-previder obtaining authorization from the claimant for electronic capture of the overpaid disability insurance benefit before the receipt of a SSDI payment[[,]]; establishing direct deposit of SSDI in a deposit account, verifying by the service provider that the claimant's deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined amount of overpaid benefits and then electronically capturing, by computer, from the deposit account [[a]] the predetermined amount of overpaid leng-term-disability benefits previously provided to the claimant by the client[[,]]; wherein the electronic capture is completed after a SSDI payment is directly deposited in the claimant's deposit account but before it is removed from the deposit account by the claimant:

returning at least a portion of the amount of overpaid benefits to the client; and 
said service provider providing to the client, by the service provider, 
eemputerized access to an interactive computer program of the service provider to 
enable the client to monitor the steps of the method, the access provided through an

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interactive computer program whereby the client can monitor progress of the recovery of the overpaid disability insurance benefits.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the further including a step of the service provider providing the client access to the steps of the method-through an interactive computer program further-comprises providing through which the client can enter information regarding access to a step of calculating, by the client, the predetermined amount of long-term disability benefits to be captured and electronically receiving from the client through the interactive computer program information related to the predetermined amount of benefits to be captured—and allowing said client to calculate the predetermined amount of long-term disability benefits to be captured.

6. (Currently amended) A data processing system for managing a disability insurance overpayment recovery service for recovery of an overpaid disability benefit from a claimant comprising:

a computer processor for processing data; and

<u>computer readable media containing</u> computer software configured to perform data processing functions comprising:

a). enabling monitoring by a third party of the progress of a claim for Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI) on behalf of a claimant and

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receipt of an award of SSDI from the <u>Social Security Administration (SSA)</u> for the claimant, said monitoring performed by a third party client;

b.) <u>enabling access to accessing</u> a database <u>of the service provider</u> by the third party client, said database including data from which an overpaid amount of <del>long-term disability insurance</del> benefits paid to the claimant by the third party client can be <u>ealculated</u> submitted by the third party client;

b). calculating the overpaid amount of long-term disability-insurance benefits: and

 c). verifying by the service provider that the claimant's deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of the submitted amount of overpaid benefits;

[[e]]d).recovering from a deposit account the ealeulated submitted overpaid amount of long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant by the third party client after the award of SSDI by SSA and receipt of SSDI payments; and

 returning at least a portion of the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits to the third party client.

 (Currently amended) A method performed by a service provider of obtaining Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI) for a claimant and

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recovering an overpayment of long-term-disability benefits previously paid to the claimant by a third party, the method comprising:

determining if the claimant qualifies for SSDI from the <u>Social Security</u> <u>Administration (SSA);</u>

filing a claim for the claimant with the SSA to qualify-for obtain an award of SSDI if the claimant qualifies for an award of SSDI from the SSA;

obtaining authorization from the claimant to recover from a deposit account overpaid long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant by the third party;

establishing direct transfer of SSDI from the SSA to the deposit account;

determining a date of the direct transfer of SSDI from the SSA to the deposit account:

determining an amount of the SSDI benefit to which the claimant is entitled;

allowing access to an interactive computer program of the service provider through which a third party can submit information regarding ealeulating and submitting an amount of overpaid long-term-disability benefits paid to the claimant by a third party, said-calculation and submission performed electronically by computer by the third party;

receiving information regarding the amount of overpaid benefits submitted by the third party;

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verifying, by the service provider, that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of the amount of overpaid benefits:

electronically accessing the deposit account by the service provider:

automatically recovering from the deposit account the ealeulated predetermined overpayment amount by computer by the service provider; and

said—service—provider returning <u>at least a portion of</u> the calculated predetermined overpayment amount to the third party.

8. (Currently amended) A method performed by a service provider of recovering overpaid leng-term disability benefits paid to a claimant by a third party after obtaining <u>Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI)</u> for the claimant from the SSA comprising:

a). determining if the claimant qualifies to receive SSDI;

 b), obtaining preauthorization from the claimant to electronically recover funds from a deposit account;

 g). filing a claim with the <u>Social Security Administration (SSA)</u> for SSDI on behalf of the claimant;

d). obtaining SSDI for the claimant as a result of the filing of the claim with the SSA:

e). establishing direct deposit of SSDI into the deposit account;

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calculating an amount of overpaid long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant:

 f). verifying by the service provider that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined amount of overpaid benefits;

g). electronically recovering from the deposit account <u>by computer</u> the ealeulated <u>predetermined</u> amount of <del>long-term disability</del> benefits paid to the claimant after the direct deposit of SSDI by SSA into the deposit account;

h), returning at least a portion of the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits to the third party; and

the service provider allowing access by the service provider to the third party to an interactive computer program of the service provider to enable enfigured to perform at least one of the above recited steps whereby the third party eanto monitor and participate in the performance of at least one of the steps of a) - h) filling a claim with the SSA for SSDI on behalf of the claimant, obtaining SSDI for the claimant as a result of the filling of the claim with the SSA, establishing direct deposit of SSDI into the deposit account, calculating an amount of overpaid long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant, or electronically recovering from the deposit account the calculated amount of long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant after the direct deposit of SSDI by SSA into the deposit account.

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 (Currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of obtaining from the disabled individual authorization for electronic recovery of a predetermined amount of leng-term disability benefits from a deposit account occurs after the step of obtaining an award of SSDI.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of obtaining a date of the direct deposit of SSDI into the deposit account by the SSA after filing a claim with the SSA for SSDI.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of calculating the amount of overpaid long-term disability benefits paid to the claimant is performed by the third party further comprising enabling the third party access to an interactive computer program of the service provider through which the third party can submit information regarding the amount of overpaid benefits; said method further including the service provider electronically receiving information regarding the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits submitted by the third party.

12. (Currently amended) A method performed by a service provider of improving the rate of recovery and decreasing collection time from a claimant of an overpaid disability insurance benefit after an award of <u>Social Security disability</u> insurance benefits (SSDI) and the claimant's receipt of SSDI; the method comprising:

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electronically capturing from a deposit account by computer a predetermined amount of <del>long-term disability</del> benefits previously provided to the disabled person by a third party.

wherein the service provides providing the third party with-access to a <u>an</u> interactive computer database <u>program</u> of the <u>service provider</u> through which the third party can monitor by computer <del>selected steps of the method</del> the <u>progress of the</u> recovery of the overpaid benefit by the service provider;

enabling the third party to [[:]] wherein electronically submit to the service provider information regarding the predetermined amount of long-term disability benefits being captured-is calculated and electronically submitted by the third party by computer; and

receiving electronically from the third party the information regarding the predetermined amount of benefits being captured;

verifying, by the service provider, that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of the predetermined amount of benefits being captured;

wherein completing the electronic capture of the predetermined amount is eempleted by a computer of the service provider before the predetermined amount is removed from the deposit account by the disabled individual; and

returning at least a portion of the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits to the third party.

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(Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising establishing with the Social Security Administration (SSA) a direct deposit of the

SSDI benefit in the claimant's deposit account.

(Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising obtaining authorization from the claimant to electronically capture the predetermined amount of long-term disability benefits from the claimant's deposit account before the

SSA makes a direct deposit of the SSDI benefit in the claimant's deposit account.

(Currently amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising 15.

obtaining authorization from the claimant to electronically capture the predetermined

amount of long-term disability benefits from the claimant's deposit account after the

SSA makes a direct deposit of the SSDI benefit in the claimant's deposit account.

(Currently amended) A data processing system for managing an disability insurance overpayment recovery service provided by a service provider for

recovery of an overpaid disability benefit from a disabled individual previously paid by

a third party, comprising:

16.

a computer processor for processing data; and

computer\_readable\_media containing computer software configured to perform

data processing functions comprising:

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 a). the service provider determining if the disabled individual qualifies to receive <u>Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI)</u> from

the Social Security Administration (SSA);

b). the service provider filing enabling the service provider to file a

claim for SSDI with the SSA on behalf of the disabled individual;

c). allowing access by a third party to a database of the service

provider containing information regarding the progress of the recovery service to

enable the third party to monitor monitoring by the third party of the progress of the

claim for SSDI and receipt of an award of SSDI from the SSA;

d). calculating an overpaid amount of long-term disability insurance

benefit; and

d). verifying that a deposit account of the disabled individual has

sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined overpaid amount of

benefits;

e). the service provider-recovering from [[a]] the deposit account the

ealculated predetermined overpaid amount of long-term disability benefits, after the

award of SSDI by SSA and receipt of the SSDI benefit in the deposit account; and

f). returning at least a portion of the recovered overpaid amount of

benefits to the third party.

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17. (Currently amended) A method of obtaining <u>Social Security disability</u> insurance benefits (SSDI) for a claimant and recovering an overpayment of <del>long-term</del> disability—benefits previously paid to the claimant by a third party performed by a service provider, the method comprising:

determining if the claimant qualifies for SSDI from the <u>Social Security</u>

Administration (SSA);

filing a claim for the claimant with the SSA to qualify for obtain an award of SSDI if the claimant qualifies for an award of SSDI from the SSA;

determining if the claimant qualifies for a recovery of an overpayment of lengterm disability-benefits paid to the claimant by a third party;

obtaining <u>permission from the claimant for the service provider to access to a</u> deposit account held by the claimant;

establishing direct payment of SSDI from the SSA to the deposit account;

calculating an amount of overpayment of long-term-disability benefits in the deposit account paid to the claimant by a third party:

accessing the deposit account held by the claimant;

verifying, by the service provider, that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined overpayment amount of benefits;

electronically recovering by a computer from the deposit account held by the claimant the ealculated predetermined overpayment amount;

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providing access to an interactive computer program of the service provider to a third party to enable the third party to monitor the progress of the recovery of the predetermined overpayment amount of benefits steps-of-the method by a third party through-computerized access to those steps; and

returning at least a portion of the ealeulated <u>predetermined</u> overpayment amount, less the applicable fees, to the third party.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A method for obtaining Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI) from the Social Security Administration (SSA) for a disabled individual and recovering overpaid benefits made by a third party, comprising:

a service provider obtaining an award of SSDI fer by a service provider on behalf of the disabled individual as a result of filing of [[the]] a claim with the SSA;

said third party calculating and electronically submitting-providing access to a computer program of the service provider to a third party to enable the third party to monitor the progress of the recovery of a predetermined overpayment amount of benefits, and the service provider receiving from the third party through the computer program information regarding the to the service provider [[a]] predetermined amount of overpaid benefits to be recovered:

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the service provider obtaining from the disabled individual an authorization for direct recovery of the predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits from a deposit account:

verifying by the service provider that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of the predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits:

the service provider electronically recovering by a computer of the service provider from the deposit account the predetermined amount of leng-term-disability benefits previously provided to the disabled person by the third party after the award of SSDI by SSA and the disabled individual's receipt of SSDI payments; and

returning at least a portion of the predetermined overpayment amount to the third party.

- 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 further comprising wherein the step of returning the at least a portion of the predetermined overpayment amount to the third party comprises transferring [[an]] the at least a portion of the overpaid amount from the service provider to the third party.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein-the-service provider deducts including a step of deducting a service fee from the overpaid benefit amount before transferring an overpaid amount to the third party.
- (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the step of obtaining from the disabled individual an authorization for direct recovery of a

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predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits from a deposit account is performed by telephone, by computer or by written form.

- 23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 further—comprising wherein\_the step of receiving from\_said third party ealeulating—and-electronically submitting the information regarding the overpayment amount comprises providing to said third party access to an interactive computer program through which\_te\_the service provider further comprising the third party can\_ealeulating\_and electronically submitting\_the submit information regarding the overpayment amount to the service provider-through interactive computer access before the step of the service provider electronically recovering from the deposit account the predetermined amount of long-term disability benefits previously provided to the disabled person by the third party.
  - 26. (Currently amended) [[In a]] A method comprising:
- a). steps of obtaining Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI) from the Social Security Administration (SSA) for a disabled individual;
- b). verifying that a deposit account of the disabled individual has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits; and
- c.) automatically recovering, by a computer, [[a]] the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits made by a third party client of a service provider from the disabled

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individual's account after verifying that the deposit account has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits; [[the]] and the method further comprising:

enabling the third party to monitor the performance of monitoring of and participating in one or more of steps a) — c) the step of automatically recovering the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits from the disabled individual's account, said monitoring and participating step being performed by granting access to the emputer by a third party client of the service provider to an interactive computer program maintained by the service provider comprising data regarding the recovery of the predetermined amount of the overpaid benefits.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26 wherein the participation in the step of automatically recovering the predetermined amount of overpaid benefits by a computer by the third party client of the service provider further comprises the interactive computer program enables the third party to submit ealculating and submitting—by computer to the service provider information regarding the predetermined overpayment amount by the third party; said method further including electronically receiving the information regarding the predetermined amount from the third party.

## 28. (Canceled)

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29. (New) A method of obtaining Social Security disability insurance benefits (SSDI) for a claimant and recovering an overpayment of benefits previously paid to the claimant by a third party performed by a service provider, comprising:

determining if the claimant qualifies for SSDI from the SSA;

filing a claim for the claimant with the SSA to obtain an award of SSDI if the claimant qualifies for an award of SSDI from the SSA:

determining if the claimant qualifies for a recovery of an overpayment of benefits paid to the claimant by a third party;

obtaining access by the service provider from the claimant to a deposit account held by the claimant;

establishing direct payment of SSDI from the SSA to the deposit account;

verifying, by the service provider, that the deposit account held by the claimant has sufficient funds to cover a withdrawal of a predetermined overpayment amount of benefits:

recovering by a computer from the deposit account held by the claimant the predetermined overpayment amount;

deducting applicable fees from the predetermined overpayment amount; and returning the remainder of the predetermined overpayment amount to the third party.

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30. (New) The method of claim 11 comprising a step of notifying the third party if information regarding the amount of benefits to be captured is still required in order to recover the amount of overpaid benefits.

31. (New) The data processing system of claim 16 wherein the software instructions being executed by the computer processor notify the third party if information regarding the amount of overpaid benefits to be captured is still required in order to recover the amount of overpaid benefits.

- (New) The method of claim 4 further comprising electronically notifying the client that the recovery was made.
  - (New) The method of claim 17 comprising deducting applicable fees from the calculated overpayment recovered from the claimant's deposit account.